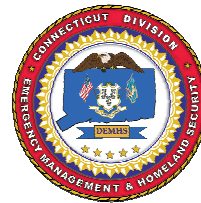




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



STATUS OF THE STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER – MONITORING

Towns are strongly encouraged to review their local Emergency Operations Plans...

Good Afternoon,

Flood Watches have been issued for all of Southern New England From 8:00 AM Thursday to 8:00 AM Saturday.

The latest GFS and NAM computer models are forecasting that a low pressure system currently located west of Chicago this afternoon will move quickly to the east during the next 24 hours and may evolve into a fairly powerful Derecho. The wet side of a derecho is typically to the left of the track (north side of an east tracking storm) and the wind and severe thunderstorm side is typically to the right of the track (south side). This storm system is forecast to move from the Ohio Valley Thursday morning to the New Jersey Coast by Thursday night putting most of New England on the wet side of the storm. The storm system is then forecast to slow down and move just South of New England Thursday night and Friday Morning. To the north of the storm track a heavy band of rain is forecast to stretch from central PA through all of Southern New England. Total rainfall within this band is forecast to average 2" – 5" with locally higher amounts possible. Soil conditions are currently saturated from all the recent rainfall across the state. Flash Flooding is expected to occur if more than 2.5" of rain falls in any 6-hour period between Thursday at Noon and Friday morning. Urban flooding is expected if rainfall rates exceed 1" per hour during this time. There is also a threat from gusty winds in thunderstorms which may gust up to 45 MPH inland and 50 MPH along the coast. Given the saturated soils these wind gusts could down a significant number of trees in a few towns.

The following forecast is based on a blend of the GFS and NAM models:

Thursday Morning... Cloudy with rain developing by 9:00 AM.

Thursday Afternoon... Rain becoming heavy at times by early afternoon with urban flooding possible by late Thursday afternoon.

Thursday Night... Rain heavy at times with rainfall rates up to 1 - 2" per hour. Significant urban flooding likely with river and stream flooding likely on medium sized rivers (e.g. Quinnipiac, Yantic, Still) by midnight. Gusty Northeast winds to 50 MPH at times may down a significant number of trees in a few towns in the saturated soil.

Friday... Rain heavy at times early Friday morning tapering off to showers before daybreak. Gusty winds may cause some additional power outages. Significant river flooding possible during the day on the larger rivers (Housatonic, Farmington and Connecticut).

We are still 18 hours from the start of this event and the rainfall forecast is likely to change somewhat. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection will continue to monitor the latest forecasts and will issue another update at 9:00 AM Thursday morning.

25 Sigourney Street, 6th floor, Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: 860.256.0800 / Fax: 860.256.0815
An Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer